CHANGES TO THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY (ACS) QUESTIONNAIRES (HOUSING QUESTIONS) July 2004

1996-1998 QUESTION WORDING	1999-2002 QUESTION WORDING	2003 - 2004 QUESTION WORDING
H1. Which best describes this building? Include all apartments, flats, etc., even if vacant. A mobile home or trailer A one-family house detached from any other house A one-family house attached to one or more houses A building with 2 apartments A building with 3 or 4 apartments A building with 5 to 9 apartments A building with 10 to 19 apartments A building with 20 to 49 apartments A building with 50 or more apartments Boat, RV, van, etc.	Include all apartments, flats, etc., even if vacant. A mobile home A one-family house detached from any other house A one-family house attached to one or more houses A building with 2 apartments A building with 3 or 4 apartments A building with 10 to 19 apartments A building with 20 to 49 apartments A building with 50 or more apartments A building with 50 or more apartments Boat, RV, van, etc. In the first answer category, the words "or trailer" were deleted to match the Census 2000 item. Two response categories differ from the 1990 census item. The first response category was "A mobile home or trailer." The last response category was "Other." The words "or trailer" were deleted at the recommendation of the Manufactured Housing Institute. The last category was modified because evaluation of the 1990 census data indicated that respondents indicated "Other" when they were uncertain about the structure classification of their unit. This design resulted in the proportion of units classified as "Other" to be far larger than the number of units that were classified as "Boat, tent, van, etc." in 1980.	Unchanged

Н2.	About when was this building first built? If you do not know the exact year, give your best estimate.	2 About when was this building first built?	2 About when was this building first built?
	(Year)		2000 or later1995 to 19991990 to 19941980 to 19891970 to 19791960 to 19691950 to 19591940 to 19491939 or earlier The response categories were updated to include housing units built in 2000 or later.
Н3.	When did PERSON 1 (listed in the List of Residents on page 2) move into this house or apartment?	When did PERSON 1 (listed in the List of Residents on page 2) move into this house, apartment, or mobile home?	Unchanged
	(Month)(Year)	(Month) (Year)	
		The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type. The question matches the Census 2000 question.	
		The ACS response area includes "Month" to observe recent movers.	

H4a. Do all persons staying in this house or apartment usually spend more than two consecutive months of the year at another residence? No Yes	28a. Do all of the persons listed on pages 2 and 3 live at this address year round? Yes - SKIP to the questions for Person 1 on the next page No -	25a. Do you or any member of this household live or stay at this address year round? Yes - SKIP to the questions for Person 1 on the next page No -
b. Where is that residence located?	b. Of the persons listed on pages 2 and 3, how many live somewhere else part of the year?	b. How many months a year do members of this household stay at this address?
c. How long does this household usually spend at that residence? Months each year	All persons listed Some persons - How many? Persons - SKIP to the questions	Months c. What is the main reason members of this household are staying at this address? _ This is their permanent address _ This is their seasonal or vacation address _ To be close to work _ To attend school or college _ Looking for permanent housing _ Other reason(s) - Specify Question number changed In part a, the text "all of the persons listed on pages 2 and 3" is replaced with "you or any member of this household". In part b, the question was changed entirely. In part c, the question and all answer categories were revised. In addition, the answer category "Looking for permanent housing" was added.

Н5.	Is this house or mobile home on Less than 1 acreSKIP to question H7 1 to less than 10 acres 10 or more acres	4 How many acres is this house or mobile home on? Less than 1 acreSKIP to question 6 1 to 9.9 acres 10 or more acres The question wording was changed, and the second response category was modified to match the Census 2000 item.	Unchanged
Н6.	IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were the sales of all agricultural products from this property \$1,000 or more? Yes No	5 IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, what were the actual sales of all agricultural products from this property? None \$1 to \$999 \$1,000 to \$2,499 \$2,500 to \$4,999 \$5,000 to \$9,999 \$10,000 or more The question wording and response categories were changed to match the 1990 census item and the Census 2000 item. This design is used primarily to identify farm residences, and allows us to adapt to changes in the farm definition. The ACS monthly data collection necessitates that the reference period be "In the past 12 months" rather than "In 1999" for the Census 2000.	Unchanged
Н7.	Is there a business such as a store or barber shop or a medical office on this property? Yes No	6 Is there a business (such as a store or barber shop) or a medical office on this property? Yes No With the addition of parentheses, the 1999 - 2002 ACS item matches the 1990 census item and the Census 2000 item.	Unchanged

Н8.	How many rooms are in this house or apartment? Do NOT count bathrooms, porches, balconies, foyers, halls, half-rooms, or utility rooms. Room(s)	How many rooms are in this house, apartment, or mobile home? Do NOT count bathrooms, porches, balconies, foyers, halls, or half-rooms. 1 room 2 rooms 3 rooms 4 rooms 5 rooms 6 rooms 7 rooms 8 rooms 9 or more rooms The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type. The response area was changed from a write-in space to response categories to match the Census 2000 item. Research showed that there was no significant difference in the	Unchanged
		item response rates when categories were compared with write-in entries for number of bedrooms. The ACS question uses the phrase "are in" rather than the phrase "do you have" in the Census 2000 item.	
Н9.	How many bedrooms are in this house or apartment? Count the number of bedrooms that you would list if this house or apartment were for sale or for rent. Bedroom(s) OR None		Unchanged

H10. Does this house or apartment have complete plumbing facilities; that is 1) hot and cold piped water, 2) a flush toilet, and 3) a bathtub or shower?	Does this house, apartment, or mobile home have COMPLETE plumbing facilities; that is, 1) hot and cold piped water, 2) a flush toilet, and 3) a bathtub or shower?	Unchanged
Yes, has all three facilities No	Yes, has all three facilities No	
	The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type.	
	The word "COMPLETE" was capitalized for emphasis.	
	The ACS question uses the phrase "Does this have" rather than the phrase "do you have" in the Census 2000 item.	
H11. Does this house or apartment have complete kitchen facilities; that is 1) a sink with piped water, 2) a stove or range, and 3) a refrigerator?	10 Does this house, apartment, or mobile home have COMPLETE kitchen facilities; that is, 1) a sink with piped water, 2) a stove or range, and 3) a refrigerator?	Unchanged
Yes, has all three facilities No	Yes, has all three facilities No	
	The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type.	
	The word "COMPLETE" was capitalized for emphasis.	
	The term "stove" replaced the term "Cookstove" used in the 1990 census item.	
	The ACS question uses the phrase "Does this have" rather than the phrase "do you have" in the Census 2000 item.	

H12. Does this house or apartment building get water from -	Deleted for 1999 This item was deleted starting with the 1999 ACS because it is not a Census 2000 item.	
A public system such as a city water department or private company? An individual drilled well? An individual dug well? Some other source, such as a spring, creek, river, cistern, etc.		
H13. Is this house or apartment building connected to a public sewer?	Deleted for 1999 This item was deleted starting with the 1999 ACS because it is not a Census 2000 item.	
 Yes, connected to a public sewer No, connected to septic tank or cesspool No, uses other means 		
H14. Does this house or apartment have air conditioning?	Deleted for 1999 This item was deleted starting with the 1999 ACS because it is not a Census 2000 item.	
 Yes, a central air conditioning system Yes, one or more individual room units No 		
H15. Does this house or apartment have a central heating system; that is, one system that heats all or most of the rooms?	Deleted for 1999 This item was deleted starting with the 1999 ACS because it is not a Census 2000 item.	
— Yes No		
H16. Is there a telephone in this house or apartment? Yes No	11 Is there telephone service available in this house, apartment, or mobile home from which you can both make and receive calls? Yes No	Unchanged
	The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type.	
	The 1999 - 2002 ACS item matches the Census 2000 item. On previous ACS questionnaires, the question adopted the focus of the 1990 Census question that asked a respondent to report if a telephone was in the unit. The Federal Communications Commission recommended the change to telephone service availability because it is a better measure of households that have service available to initiate and receive calls.	

H17. How many automobiles, vans, and trucks of one-ton capacity or less are kept at home for use by members of this household? Vehicle(s) OR None	12 How many automobiles, vans, and trucks of one-ton capacity or less are kept at home for use by members of this household? None123456 or more With the change in the response area from a write-in space to response categories, the 1999 - 2002 ACS item matches the 1990 census item and the Census 2000 item. The 1990 census item had a response category of "7 or more". The Department of Transportation and the Census Bureau agreed that the response category of "6 or more" is sufficient.	Unchanged
H18. Which FUEL is used MOST for heating this house or apartment? Gas: from underground pipes serving the neighborhood Gas: bottled, tank, or LP Electricity Fuel oil, kerosene, etc Coal or coke Wood Solar energy Other fuel No fuel used	13 Which FUEL is used MOST for heating this house, apartment, or mobile home? Gas: from underground pipes serving the neighborhood Gas: bottled, tank, or LP Electricity Fuel oil, kerosene, etc Coal or coke Wood Solar energy Other fuel No fuel used The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type. The 1999 - 2002 ACS item matches the Census 2000 item.	Unchanged

19a. LAST MONTH, what was the cost of electricity	14a. LAST MONTH, what was the cost of	Unchanged
for this house or apartment?	electricity for this house,	
\$00 (Last month)	apartment, or mobile home?	
OR	Last month's cost - Dollars	
Included in rent or in condominium fee	\$00 OR	
No charge or electricity not used	Included in rent or in condominium fee No charge or electricity not used	
b. LAST MONTH, what was the cost of gas for		
this house or apartment?	b. LAST MONTH, what was the cost of	
© 00 (Last month)	gas for this house, apartment, or mobile home?	
\$00 (Last month) OR		
Included in rent or in condominium fee	Last month's costs - <i>Dollars</i> \$.00 OR	
No charge or gas not used	Included in rent or in condominium fee	
c. IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, what was the	Included in electricity payment	
cost of water and sewer for this house or	entered above	
apartment? If you have lived here less than	No charge or gas not used	
12 months, estimate the cost.	c. IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, what was the	
\$00 (Past 12 months)	cost of water and sewer for this house, apartment, or mobile home? <i>If</i>	
OR	you have lived here less than 12 months,	
Included in rent or in condominium fee	estimate the cost.	
No charge	Past 12 months' cost - Dollars	
d. IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, what was the cost	\$00 OR	
of fuel oil, wood, kerosene, coal, etc. for this	Included in rent or in condominium fee	
house or apartment? If you have lived here less than 12 months, estimate the cost.	No charge	
than 12 months, estimate the cost.	d. IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS, what was the	
\$00 (Past 12 months)	cost of oil, coal, kerosene, wood, etc.,	
OR Included in rent or in condominium fee	for this house, apartment or mobile home? If you have lived here less than 12	
No charge or these fuels not used	months, estimate the cost.	
	Past 12 months' cost - <i>Dollars</i>	
	\$.00 OR	
	Included in rent or in condominium fee	
	No charge or these fuels not used	
	The words "or mobile home" were added to each part to be more inclusive of the	
	structure type.	
	The ACS differs from the census item. The ACS asks for monthly costs of electricity	
	and gas, while the census asks for annual costs. In both the ACS and census, we	
	ultimately produce average monthly costs. There is evidence to imply that we can do this better in the census by asking for annual costs. We do not want last month's costs	
	in April 2000 (March) since it may not be representative of the entire year. Since ACS	
	data are gathered all year long, the best estimate of average monthly costs will result from an average of these monthly estimates. The approaches followed in the ACS and	
	the decennial are appropriate for their respective data collection environments.	
	In part b. the response category "Included in electricity payment entered above" was	
	added for respondents who receive one bill for both costs.	
	The 1990 census item for the cost of water did not include sewage fees.	

a. b.	At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were you or any member of this household enrolled in or receiving benefits from: free or reduced-price meals at school through the Federal School Lunch Program or the Federal School Breakfast Program? Yes No the Federal home heating and cooling assistance program? Yes No	15 At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, were you or any member of this household enrolled in or receiving benefits from: a. free or reduced-price meals at school through the National School Lunch Program or the School Breakfast Program? Yes No b. the Federal home heating and cooling assistance program? Yes No In part a of the item, the names of the programs were corrected.	Deleted for 2003
	At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did anyone in this household receive Food Stamps? Yes - What was the value of the food stamps? 00 (12 month amount) No	16 At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did anyone in this household receive Food Stamps? Yes - What was the value of the Food Stamps? Past 12 months' value - Dollars \$00 (12 month amount) No The words "Food Stamps" were capitalized in the question following the Yes response category.	15 At any time DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS, did anyone in this household receive Food Stamps? Yes - What was the value of the Food Stamps received during the past 12 months? Past 12 months' value - Dollars \$00 (12 month amount) No Question number changed The words "during the past 12 months" were added to the explanation following the "Yes" response category.
	Is this house or apartment part of a condominium? Yes - What is the monthly condominium fee? \$00 (Monthly) OR None No	17 Is this house, apartment, or mobile home part of a condominium? Yes -What is the monthly condominium fee? For renters, answer only if you pay the condominium fee in addition to your rent; otherwise, mark the "None" box. Monthly amount - Dollars \$,00 ORNoneNo The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type. An instruction, which had been tested, was added to clarify the follow-up question for renters.	Is this house, a partment, or mobile home part of a condominium? Yes -What is the monthly condominium fee? For renters, answer only if you pay the condominium fee in addition to your rent; otherwise, mark the "None" box. Monthly amount - Dollars \$00 ORNoneNo Question number changed

H23.	Is this house or apartment	18	Is this house, apartment, or mobile home	17	Is this house, apartment, or mobile home
	 Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)? Rented for cash rent? Occupied without payment of cash rent? Skip to question H27 		 Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)? Rented for cash rent? Occupied without payment of cash rent? - Skip to question 21 		 Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)? Rented for cash rent? Occupied without payment of cash rent? - Skip to C
		struct	ure type.	The sk	ion number changed kip instruction was modified because some of the subsequent were d for 2003.

Н24.	What is the monthly rent for this house or apartment?	19a.	What is the monthly rent for this house, apartment, or mobile home?	18a.	What is the monthly rent for this house, apartment, or mobile home?
1125	\$00 (Monthly) Does the monthly rent include any meals?		Monthly amount Dollars \$00		Monthly amount Dollars \$00
п25.	Yes No		Does the monthly rent include any meals? Yes No ords "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the	b. Questi	Does the monthly rent include any meals? Yes No on number changed
		Althou	ngh there is a difference in the lead in to the question, the 1999 - 2002 ACS on essentially matches the 1990 census item and the Census 2000 item.		
Н26.	Is the rent on this house or apartment reduced because the Federal, state, or local government is paying part of the cost? YesNo	b.		Delet	ed for 2003
		The fo	llow-up question was added in response to welfare reform programs.		

127.	Is this house or apartment in a public housing project; that is, is it part of a government housing project for persons with low income? Yes No	21 Is this house, apartment, or mobile home in a public housing project; that is, is it part of a government housing project for persons with low income? YesNo The words "or mobile home" were added to the question to be more inclusive of the structure type.	Deleted for 2003
128.	What is the value of this property; that is, how much would this house or mobile home and lot, or condominium unit sell for if it were for sale? \$00 (Value)	### Structure type. What is the value of this property; that is, how much do you think this house and lot, apartment, or mobile home and lot, would sell for if it were for sale? Less than \$10,000	19 What is the value of this property; that is, how much do you think this house and lot, apartment, or mobile home and lot, would sell for if it were for sale? Less than \$10,000 \$10,000 to \$14,999 \$15,000 to \$19,999 \$20,000 to \$24,999 \$25,000 to \$29,999 \$30,000 to \$34,999 \$35,000 to \$39,999 \$350,000 to \$49,999 \$50,000 to \$59,999 \$60,000 to \$69,999 \$70,000 to \$79,999 \$80,000 to \$89,999 \$100,000 tp \$124,999 \$125,000 to \$149,999 \$150,000 to \$149,999 \$150,000 to \$199,999 \$150,000 to \$149,999 \$150,000 to \$149,999 \$200,000 to \$249,999 \$250,000 or more Specify - \$00
		Responses were changed to listed categories instead of a write-in box. Also, the 1998 question included "condominium unit" rather than "apartment." The 1999 version is better because it is all inclusive. (A "condominium unit" could be a house or mobile home) The question wording was modified slightly. The 1999 - 2002 ACS question matches the Census 2000 question. The ACS response area was changed from a write-in space to categories because research showed a consistently higher non-response rate for write-in values. The ACS item has 19 response categories, and a write-in space for homes valued at 250,000 or more. The Census 2000 item has 24 response categories, with the last category being "\$1,000,000 or more." There are no write-ins for high valued homes.	Question number changed

Н29.	What are the annual real estate taxes on this property?	What are the annual real estate taxes on THIS property?	20	What are the annual real estate taxes on THIS property?
	\$00 (Annual) OR None	Annual amount - Dollars \$00 OR None The word "THIS" was capitalized for emphasis.	Questi	Annual amount - Dollars \$00 OR None on number changed
		The Census 2000 item also uses this format; however, the reference period is "last year." Since the ACS in conducted every month, a reference to something other than "last year" is more appropriate for the ACS.		
Н30.	What is the annual payment for fire, hazard, and flood insurance on this property? \$00 (Annual) OR None	• • •	21 Questi	What is the annual payment for fire, hazard, and flood insurance on THIS property? Annual amount - Dollars \$00 OR None on number changed

H31.	Do you or any member of this household have a mortgage, deed of trust, contract to purchase, or similar debt on this property? Yes, mortgage, deed of trust, or similar debt	25a.	Do you or any member of this household have a mortgage, deed of trust, contract to purchase, or similar debt on THIS property?	22a.	Do you or any member of this household have a mortgage, deed of trust, contract to purchase, or similar debt on THIS property?
	Yes, contract to purchase No SKIP to question H35		 Yes, mortgage, deed of trust, or similar debt Yes, contract to purchase No SKIP to question 26a 		Yes, mortgage, deed of trust, or similar debtYes, contract to purchaseNo SKIP to question 23a
132.	How much is the regular monthly mortgage payment on this property? Include payments only on FIRST mortgage or contract to purchase \$00 (Monthly) OR No regular payment required SKIP to question H35	b.	How much is the regular monthly mortgage payment on THIS property? Include payments only on FIRST mortgage or contract to purchase. Monthly amount - Dollars \$.00	b.	How much is the regular monthly mortgage payment on THIS property? Include payments only on FIRST mortgage or contract to purchase. Monthly amount - Dollars \$.00
H33.	Does the regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for real estate taxes on this		OR No regular payment required SKIP to question 26a		OR No regular payment required SKIP to question 23a
	property? Yes, taxes included in payment No, taxes paid separately or taxes not required	c.	Does the regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for real estate taxes on THIS property? Yes, taxes included in mortgage payment No, taxes paid separately or taxes not required	c.	Does the regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for real estate taxes on THIS property? Yes, taxes included in mortgage payment No, taxes paid separately or taxes not required
H34.	Does the regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for fire, hazard, or flood insurance on this property? Yes, insurance included in payment	d.	Does the regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for fire, hazard, or flood insurance on THIS property?	d.	Does the regular monthly mortgage payment include payments for fire, hazard, or flood insurance on THIS property?
	No, insurance paid separately or no insurance		 Yes, insurance included in mortgage payment No, insurance paid separately or no insurance 		Yes, insurance included in mortgage payment No, insurance paid separately or no insurance
		The we	ord "THIS" was capitalized for emphasis in all four questions.	Questi	ion number changed
			ord "mortgage" was added for clarification in the response categories in parts ${\bf c}$ of the item.		ts a and b , the SKIP to question number was changed, from 26a to 23a, ommodate the deleted questions in 2003.
			a of this item the ACS has the phrase "or any member of this household" which part of the Census 2000 item.		
			s b , c , and d of this item, the ACS uses the word "the" while the Census 2000 ses the word "your."		

H35.	Do you or any member of this household have a second mortgage or a home equity loan on this property?	26a. Do you or any member of this household have a second mortgage or a home equity loan on THIS property?	23a.	Do you or any member of this household have a second mortgage or a home equity loan on THIS property?
	Yes, home equity loan Yes, second mortgage Yes, second mortgage and home equity loan No SKIP to H37	Yes, home equity loan Yes, second mortgage Yes, second mortgage and home equity loan No - SKIP to D		Yes, home equity loan Yes, second mortgage Yes, second mortgage and home equity loan No - SKIP to D
Н36.	How much is the regular monthly payment on ALL second and third mortgages and home equity loans? \$00 (Monthly) OR No regular payment required	b. How much is the regular monthly payment on all second or junior mortgages and all home equity loans on THIS property? Monthly Amount - Dollars \$00 OR No regular payment required In part a, the word "THIS" was capitalized for emphasis. The question matches the Census 2000 question, except that the it contains the additional phrase "or any member of this household" as well as the additional answer category "Yes, second mortgage and home equity loan". In part b of this item, the question wording was changed from "second and third mortgages" to "second or junior mortgages," and the phrase "on THIS property" was added. This question matches the Census 2000 question, except that the ACS question uses the word "the" rather than "your."	b. Questi	How much is the regular monthly payment on all second or junior mortgages and all home equity loans on THIS property? Monthly Amount - Dollars \$00 OR No regular payment required tion number changed
		In the response area, the Census 2000 item does not have the third ACS response category ("Yes, second mortgage and home equity loan."), but does have an instruction to "Mark (X) all boxes that apply."		

Н37.	What are the total annual costs for personal property taxes, site rent, registration fees, and license fees on this mobile home and its site? Do not include real estate taxes. \$00 (Annual)	27a.	Do you or any member of this household have an installment loan or contract on THIS mobile home? YesNo	Part 24	What are the total annual costs for personal property taxes, site rent, registration fees, and license fees on THIS mobile home and its site? Exclude real estate taxes.
		Part b annual accourunits. In part "Instal The Coonduction	What are the total annual costs for installment loan payments, personal property taxes, site rent, registration fees, and license fees on THIS mobile home and its site? Exclude real estate taxes. Annual costs Dollars \$00 of this item was added to clarify the mobile home households that have an ment loan or contract. of this item specifies that installment loan payments should be included in the costs. The revised question more clearly identifies the mobile home fees that at for the majority of the shelter costs of households residing in these types of b of this item, the word "THIS" was capitalized for emphasis. The term lment loan payments" was added to this question. ensus 2000 item uses the reference period "last year." Since the ACS is cotted every month, a reference to something other than "last year" is more oriate for the ACS.	Part a	Annual costs Dollars \$00 tion number changed a was deleted, in its entirety, making this a one part question. words "installment loan payments" were deleted.